



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY JANUARY 12, 2021
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Greg Wharton, Mayor
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem
Robert Smith, Councilmember, Secretary

Jim Nelson, Councilmember, Treasurer
Rodney Thompson, Councilmember
Zac Carroll, Councilmember

and all said persons were present thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Wendy Smith and Linda Lunney, Village of The Hills; Officer Christian Oehler.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting
2. Finance/Treasurer's Report for December 2020

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of the Consent Agenda; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Law Enforcement

Officer Oehler reviewed the written report showing: 1 Citation, 8 Warnings; of which 2 were residents and 5 visitors. Violations were for defective brake lights, expired registrations, stop sign, no lights and speeding.

Treasurer Nelson discussed the house check program and would like to see a monthly report on the program. He pointed out it was a good program and it is important that the home owner contact the city when they return home, especially if different from the intended dates.

2. POA Liaison

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reviewed her written report including:

- The annual meeting will be held remotely in January. Nine property owners have signed up to run for the open positions. The vote to amend the Master Declaration will also be on the ballot.
- The Board is considering a change in the fine structure, primarily for non-residents
- The Architectural Committee is considering changes in garage doors and culvert designs
- Gate arm strikes are down significantly.
- The Road Committee is identifying locations with trees overhanging the roads and need to be trimmed
- Mandatory membership dues will be on the up for a vote at the annual meeting. Approval of 51% is required for any changes of the Master Declaration

3. MUD Liaison

Secretary Smith reported on the MUD meeting including a Capital Expenditure Plan – a list for major projects, differentiating items between capital and maintenance, critical and non-critical projects spanning the next five years.

The MUD is still working on repairing the pond liner. They are trying to repair the liner in-house which will cost a lot less than hiring a contractor.

4. Park Liaison

Secretary Smith reported the Holiday of Lights was a huge success. The Parks & Recreation Commission discussed improvements and plans for next year. They also discussed a landscape review and the replacement of some landscape timbers.

5. City Manager's Report

Wendy Smith reported on the following:

- Meeting with CivicPlus about improvements in the website
- Meeting with the county about transportation issues
- Quarterly curbside bulky waste collection is on February 12
- Working with the engineers on the next phase of the walking trail

6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Wharton reported on meeting with local officials and the meeting with the Lakeway Mayor has been rescheduled for later in the month.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action on Disaster Declarations, Travis County Orders, and the Governor's Executive Orders

The City will continue in alignment with the Governor's Executive orders for the next 30 days. The County is at Stage 5; restaurants have a 50% capacity limit and an emphasis on staying home if possible.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the House Watch program
This subject was covered in the Constable Report.

3. Discussion and possible action on the Strategic Plan update
Treasurer Nelson expressed his desire to have review, update and look at new issues in the Strategic Plan. The Mayor suggested a smaller committee made up of Councilmembers Nelson and Thompson and City Manager Wendy Smith. Goals should be highlighted as to significance, difficulty and capital involved.

4. Discussion and possible action on Lohman's Crossing Gate traffic management
The Mayor discussed solutions to the Lohman's Crossing Gate traffic issues. He would like to install/mount a mirror at the Stop sign exiting the gate to allow drivers waiting to turn right to see "over" vehicles that are waiting to make a left turn. Post a sign warning of vehicles making U-turns and "no turns in driveway" by the guard shack. He will continue dialogue with Lakeway regarding installation of control signals. It was also suggested to send a communication to residents about proper rules of the intersection.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding a community engagement initiative
The Mayor stated he would like the City Manager to create a monthly report summarizing major activities in the prior month and published on the Village website. The Mayor also would like a banner on the home page of the web site about a Village Help Desk. This would be where residents could ask questions with the expectation of a prompt response.

Councilmember Thompson said all communications should contain a link encouraging signing up on the web site for future communications.

It was also suggested that a notice of seasonal issues with animal control should be sent out every few months.

6. Discussion and possible action related to Greenbelt Management
Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich promoted a system of keeping greenbelts a low fire risk. To keep these areas free of waste she would like to enlist residents along the greenbelts to take some ownership and help keep the areas clean of debris where possible. The Mayor Pro Tem will work with the City Manager on communication with these residents.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding Community Service Awards and Volunteer Dinner
The Volunteer Dinner and community service awards are indefinitely cancelled because of COVID 19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS

- New business items to be included on the next agenda
There were no items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council went into Executive Session at 10:11 a.m.

The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §441.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

- Warranty Claim against FenceCrete American Inc.
- Consultation with attorney relating to capital project financing
- Consultation with attorney regarding real property owned by Village of The Hills
- Sales Tax Information

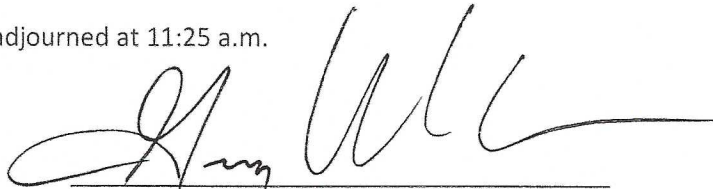
The Council came out of Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to authorize the City Manager to spend up to \$20,000 for Lohman's Crossing Fence repairs; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

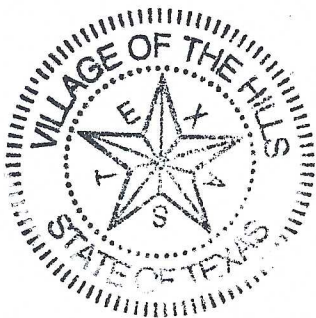
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Signed this 9th day of February 2021.



Greg Wharton, Mayor

(Seal)



Linda Lunney, City Secretary